

# Menominee County Parks and Recreation Committee

## Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Bob Desjarlais at River Park in Menominee County, MI on August 6, 2012.

Reporting for roll call were: Bob Desjarlais, Vola Bleile, Ruby Ivens, Gail Jerzyk, Glenn Cody, County Administrator Brian Bousley, and County Commissioners Charlie Meintz and Mark Jasper. There was a quorum present to conduct the meeting.

**Approval of agenda:** A motion was made by Charlie and seconded by Vola. The motion carried.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the previous meeting on July 2, 2012 were reviewed by the committee. Vola offered a motion that was seconded by Charlie.. The motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Ms. Boye, a long-term camper at Kleinke Park, asked if the committee had received the letter she had written concerning the situation at the park. Bob confirmed that the letter had been received. Christy Salo requested time later in the meeting to offer her comments concerning the same issue.

### Business:

- a. **Budget Review:** Brian distributed copies of the most recent budget and stated that the bottom line remains fine, and that we are exactly where we were last year at this time. Charlie asked about overtime pay for the park rangers during the Menominee County Fair. Bob wondered whether the fair board could/should cover the cost of handling the extra trash generated by the event. Brian suggested that we discuss the issue at the next joint meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Fair Board.
- b. **Park Ranger/Park Manager Updates:** Brian reported that everything is running fine at all of the parks. Karen Kayser mentioned that sometimes she let's potential park patrons into Shakey Lakes Park just to look around without charging them. Glenn asked Karen how the fireworks ban, now in its second year, was received over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. Karen reported that all was quiet and that there were no problems.
- c. **Park Deputy Program:** Brian reported that the program continues to meet our expectations. There was a report of a camping vehicle break-in in July.
- d. **Projects:** Brian reported that the trusses and roofing had been installed on the new bathhouse at Shakey Lakes Park. Work was also progressing both inside and out. He suggested that the committee wait until next spring to open the bathhouse.
- e. **Park Website:** Brian suggested that we delete the link "Contact us for Reservations" since Karen Kayser is not yet able to access the internet at Shakey Lakes Park. Brian said that he would like to find out whether or not the website can be updated without contacting the designer each time a change is required.

- f. **2012/2013 Budget discussion:** Brian presented next year's budget for discussion and review. Bob reminded the committee that the electrical power deficiency at Shakey Lakes Park needs to be addressed. He stated that it's just the wires themselves that need to be replaced – not the pedestals, and that the upgrade could be accomplished gradually over time. Charlie suggested that we consider levying a power surcharge on all electrified campsites to help pay for the upgrade rather than raising the camping rate for all campers. Bob agreed to place the issue on next month's agenda.
  
- g. **Volunteer Camp Host Program and Kleinke Park:** Glenn asked whether it would be appropriate to ask clarification questions of the campers in the audience concerning the testimony that was presented at the last meeting on August 1. It was agreed that the members of the committee try to gather as many facts as possible before discussing and deciding on a solution. Each member of the committee then asked questions directed in most cases to specific individuals, both campers and the camp host, in the audience. Other campers also offered their perspective on the situation – some in favor of the camp host and some against.

Charlie offered a motion that all long-term campsite leases be terminated immediately. This engendered much discussion. Glenn asked if any of the campers, particularly those who found themselves at the center of the latest controversy, would consider leaving the park voluntarily. This would prevent the committee from having to terminate all long-term leases. Glenn stated that it would be a good time for the camp host to leave voluntarily as well. The camp host agreed but none of the campers came forward.

Next, Gail offered a motion that the committee ask the camp host, Don Phillips, and Mr. and Mrs. Salo to leave the park voluntarily by 5:00 pm on August 13, 2012, and that if not, action to evict will commence. Mark seconded the motion. The committee voted to approve the motion as follows:

Gail – yes  
Bob – yes  
Ruby – no (Ruby disagreed that the camp host be asked to leave)  
Charlie – yes  
Vola – yes  
Mark – yes  
Glenn -yes

There was no correspondence.

**Any Other Items Members Wish to Present:** None

**Public Comment:** Several campers offered various comments both in favor of and against the above motion.

Charlie offered a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Vola. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Glenn D. Cody